of the farmers affected by various natural calamities are converted into medium term loans by the credit/financial institutions, without insisting on prior settlement of crop insurance claims. This conversion restores the credit eligibility of the affected farmers.

Flood relief to West Bengal

106 SHRI SURAJ PRASAD:
SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total amount of financial assistance sought by the Government of West Bengal for flood relief measures;

(b) what is the amount sanctioned by the Union Government;

(c) whether it is a fact that the State Government has been asked to send audited accounts of money already spent on relief and rehabilitation work in the flood affected districts;

(d) if so, what is the State Government's reaction thereto; and

(e) whether other State Governments have also been asked to send audited accounts of the expenses incurred on flood and drought relief?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) Rs. 225.90 crores.

(b) Rs. 67.78 crores including Rs. 0.06 crore for increasing vegetable production.

(c) to (e) All State Governments are required to furnish audicted accounts of expenditure incurred on the relief against Central assistance given to them; these accounts are due after 18 months of the close of the year in which the expenditure is incurred. In terms of orders sanctioning Central assistance, certified figures of expenditure as booked by the Accountant General are required by 15th March, 1988 to enable the Ministry of Finance to determine the Central assistance admissible on the basis of expenditure. These conditions apply to all States equally. Certified figures of expenditure are not, therefore, due from Government of West Bengal.

Shortfall in Kharif Production

107. SHRI SURAJ PRASAD:
SHRI N. E. BALARAM:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that shortfall in the production of Kharif food-grains output this year is estimated to be lower by about 20 million tonnes than the target, and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) and (b) A foodgrains production target of 90.5 million tonnes was fixed for the kharif season of 1987-88. However, large parts of the country experienced drought conditions and some States in the East suffered from floods, adversely affecting the kharif foodgrains production. Final estimates of the crop size have not yet fallen due from the States. As such, it is too early to quantify the shortfall in the production of kharif foodgrains from the envisaged target.

Advertisement about the foreign brand consumer durables

108. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:
SHRI N. E. BALARAM:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn into various advertisements appearing in Media about the